

THE CLOUD FAMILY--FIRST GENERATION

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The Cloud family of south-eastern Pennsylvania and northern Delaware are descended from one William Cloud of Wiltshire, England. Of the family in England, prior to coming to Pennsylvania, very little is known at the present writing. A few items have been gathered from the Friends' records, and it is possible that the future genealogist of this family may be able to gather additional information from the parish records of that section, and from wills that may possibly be on file in the proper offices.

1 WILLIAM CLOUD, OF CALNE, Wiltshire, England, was probably born at least as early as 1630. He was a member of the Religious Society of Friends, of Quakers, and a few items have been gathered from the records of this Society in Wiltshire. The earliest mention of him that has been noticed is found in Besse's Suffering of Friends, Vol. II, Chapter II, page 89, wherein it is stated that William Cloud with others were at a meeting at Calne, held May 16, 1660, that the meeting "was broken up by a party of Soldiers, who came with Swords drawn, and Pistols cockt, and violently haled out those that were met, and when asked for their Warrant, shewd their Swords, Saying 'This is our Warrant.' "

On 12 mo. 7, 1680, he attended a monthly meeting of Friends, held at Marlborough, as a representative from Calne Meeting; but in 1682, he seems to have come under the censure of Friends. A minute of a monthly meeting held at Calne on 6 mo. 7, 1682, reads thus: "Whereas there is a complaint made at this meeting of William Cloud of Calne, disorderly walking contrary to truth, agreed that John Neate(?), Samuel Noise & William Coole speak with him & advise him as ye Lord in His wisdom shall direct & give and account at ye next Monthly Meeting." At the next meeting, 7 mo. 4, 1682, the matter was continued, and as